Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/955,860	SRIDHAR ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nghi V. Tran	2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *06/15/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1,2,5-8,11 and 12*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mandy Jubang (Reg. 45,884) on July 24, 2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims

Claim 1

1. (Currently amended) A communication system for implementing an overall communication policy comprising:

a first communication interface for accepting a first plurality of separate communication links forming a first trunked communication link;

a second communication interface for accepting a second plurality of separate communication links forming a second trunked communication link; and

a plurality of processors, each coupled to a corresponding different one of the first plurality of separate communication links and coupled to a corresponding different

one of the second plurality of communication links, and coupled to one another over a communication channel;

wherein each processor in the plurality of processors is configured to implement a separate communication policy for data passing between one of the first plurality of communication links forming the first trunked communication link and a corresponding one of the second plurality of communication links forming the second trunked communication link, such that together the separate communication policies approximate the overall communication policy, ~~and~~

wherein the plurality of processors are further configured to communicate among one another to adjust the separate communication policies to adapt to data flows passing through the processors,

wherein each processor in the plurality of processors has a copy of each communication policy in the communication system and communicates with the other processors in the plurality of processors to keep state information current for each such copy, and

wherein the plurality of processors is divided into a plurality of active processors and a plurality of standby processors, such that each processor in the plurality of active processors actively implements a communication policy on data, while a standby processor in the plurality of standby processors monitors the plurality of active processors for a failure on an active processor, and upon detecting the failure the standby processor joins the plurality of active processors, thus implementing the overall communication policy.

Claim 3

Please cancel claim 3

Claim 4

Please cancel claim 4.

Claim 9

Please cancel claim 9.

Claim 10

Please cancel claim 10.

Claim 11

11. (Currently amended) A communication system for implementing an overall communication policy comprising:

a first communication link;

a second communication link;

a plurality of processors, each processor in the plurality of processors configured to implement the communication policy for data passing between the first communication link and the second communication link;

a first plurality of aggregator/disaggregator network devices arranged between the plurality of processors and the first communication link;

a second plurality of aggregator/disaggregator network devices arranged between the plurality of processors and the second communication link;

a first mesh, including a plurality of network links such that a link in the plurality of network links exists to join each processor in the plurality of processors to each aggregator/disaggregator in the first plurality of aggregator/disaggregator network devices; and

a second mesh, including a plurality of network links such that a link in the plurality of network links exists to join each processor in the plurality of processors to each aggregator/disaggregator in the second plurality of aggregator/disaggregator network devices;

wherein each processor in the plurality of processors is configured to implement a separate communication policy for data passing between the first communication link via a first aggregator/disaggregator in the first plurality of aggregator/disaggregator network devices and the second communication link via a corresponding one of the second plurality of aggregator/disaggregator network devices, such that together the separate quality-of-service policies approximate the overall communication policy, ~~and~~

wherein the plurality of processors are further configured to communicate among one another to adjust the separate communication policies to adapt to data flows passing through the processors, and

wherein the plurality of processors is divided into a plurality of active processors and a plurality of standby processors, such that each processor in the plurality of active processors actively implements a communication policy on data, while a standby processor in the plurality of standby processors monitors the plurality of active processors for a failure on an active processor, and upon detecting the failure the standby processor joins the plurality of active processors, implementing a communication policy on data previously associated with the active processor.

Claim 13

Please cancel claim 13.

Claim 14

Please cancel claim 14.

Claim 15

Please cancel claim 15.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-2, 5-8, and 11-12 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited prior arts fail to disclose or suggest a communication system for implementing an

overall communication policy comprising: a first communication interface for accepting a first plurality of separate communication links forming a first trunked communication link; a second communication interface for accepting a second plurality of separate communication links forming a second trunked communication link; wherein each processor in the plurality of processors is configured to implement a separate communication policy for data passing between one of the first plurality of communication links forming the first trunked communication link and a corresponding one of the second plurality of communication links forming the second trunked communication link, such that together the separate communication policies approximate the overall communication policy, wherein the plurality of processors is divided into a plurality of active processors and a plurality of standby processors, such that each processor in the plurality of active processors actively implements a communication policy on data, while a standby processor in the plurality of standby processors monitors the plurality of active processors for a failure on an active processor, and upon detecting the failure the standby processor joins the plurality of active processors, thus implementing the overall communication policy in conjunction with all other limitations in the claim.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nghi V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-4067. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nghi V Tran
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2151

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